

CITY CLERK MEMORANDUM
20-20

DATE: October 12, 2020
TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
FROM: Mary Beth Hickman, City Clerk
SUBJECT: ADDITION TO THE OCTOBER 12, 2020 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Since the agenda's posting on Thursday, October 8, 2020, city staff has one additional item to include on the meeting agenda and in its packet. The item is a proclamation recognizing Martin McDonald, the former principal of Oak Ridge High School. This item was requested by Councilmember Jim Dodson.

Attached is a copy of the proposed proclamation. City Council will need to consider an amendment to formally add the aforementioned item to the agenda.


Mary Beth Hickman

cc: Mark S. Watson, City Manager
Kenneth R. Krushenski, City Attorney
Department Directors

Attachment:
Proclamation

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Martin McDonald was born and raised in Knoxville, Tennessee and attended the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where he earned a B.S. degree in History and an M.S. in Education; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McDonald taught at both the Tennessee School for the Deaf and Maryville High School before leaving for North Carolina in 2000 to teach at Smith High School, a diverse inner-city school with over forty-four different nationalities represented in its student body; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McDonald earned a second Master's degree in School Administration from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro and was hired as an assistant principal at Ragsdale High School in Jamestown, North Carolina, where he worked for five years before being hired as the principal of Jordan-Matthews High School in Silver City, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure at Jordan-Matthews, the school was ranked as the 12th and 4th best school in the state by U.S. News and World Report; the graduation rate rose twenty-eight points, and the school was named the North Carolina School of Distinction for 2015 for having the highest growth scores in the state; and

WHEREAS, also while at Jordan-Matthews, Mr. McDonald oversaw the implementation of a one-to-one laptop program, the expansion of dual enrollment courses for high school and college credits, the tripling of AP offerings and enrollment numbers, and Jordan-Matthews was recognized as the first comprehensive high school in the state to offer a dual language program; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McDonald was hired as the principal of Oak Ridge High School in 2015, where he implemented the AVID program, oversaw the transition to digital devices, increased the number of early post-secondary opportunities by eighty percent, initiated the Middle College at Roane State, and took on the task of opening access to upper level honors and AP classes to all students; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McDonald has served the Oak Ridge community through his leadership in numerous organizations, including, as a member of the Breakfast Rotary Club of Oak Ridge, a board member of the Boys and Girls Club of Oak Ridge, a founding member of the Oak Ridge Fund for Achieving Community Excellence, a member of the local chapter of the NAACP and a member of the Continuous Improvement Team for the University of Tennessee College of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McDonald is married to Kendra McDonald and has two school-aged children, Lily and Skyler; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McDonald will enter the next phase of his distinguished career as the Principal of Greeneville High School in Greeneville, Tennessee on October 19, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE, that in recognition of his distinguished service to the Oak Ridge community, the City of Oak Ridge hereby recognizes

MARTIN MCDONALD

and offers him best wishes on his future endeavors.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Oak Ridge to be affixed, this the 12th day of October in the year 2020.

WARREN L. GOOCH, MAYOR